

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

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Claim 1 (original): In a computer system having a control knob and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or in contact with the control knob for a predefined period in which the control knob is stationary; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the control knob.

Claim 2 (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the status information includes volume settings.

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Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of changing the status information in the display widget responsive to an input control other than the control knob while detecting the physical presence proximate to or contacting the control knob.

Claim 4 (original): The method according to claim 3, wherein the input control is a pointing device.

Claim 5 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a first predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state;

in a first context, displaying a first display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the first display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control in the first context; and

in a second context different from the first context, displaying a second display widget on the display screen responsive to said detecting, the second display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control in the second context.

Claim 6 (previously presented): In a computer system having a control switch which is one of a rocker switch or dial switch and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to the control switch for a predefined period in which the control switch maintains a current switch state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the control switch.

Claim 7 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

3. displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identifying at least one of track name, track time remaining, track length, album title and album length in a multimedia application.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 7, wherein said step of displaying further includes displaying a multimedia control panel.

Claim 9 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information relating to a game.

Claim 10 (previously presented): In a computer system having a first auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the first auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the first auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the first auxiliary control; and

changing the status information in the display widget responsive to a second auxiliary control other than the first auxiliary control.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method according to claim 10, wherein the first auxiliary control is a headset or a microphone.

Claim 12 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control,

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of placing an identified application in the foreground of the display screen, responsive to a user's selection of the application using the auxiliary control.

Claim 14 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information including a task bar.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

detecting absence of the physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a second predefined period while displaying the display widget; and

discontinuing display of the display widget, responsive to detecting the absence of the physical presence.

Claim 16 (previously presented): In a computer system including an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current control state; and

31 displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the auxiliary control is one of a joystick or a wheel.

Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the auxiliary control is one of a button or a key.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the physical presence is a hand of a user.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (previously presented): In a computer system including an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a first predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current control state;

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control;

detecting absence of the physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a second predefined period while displaying the display widget;

determining if a pointer is located within the display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting; and

discontinuing display of the display widget when the pointer is not located within the display widget.

Claims 22-25 (canceled)

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Claim 26 (previously presented): In a computer system including an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identified only applying to a single active application.

Claim 27 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the type of status information associated with the auxiliary control displayed when a first application is active is different from the type of status information associated with the auxiliary control displayed when a second application is active.

Claim 28 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information is messaging related information.

Claim 29 (original): The method according to claim 28, wherein the status information includes one of the number of new or unread regular or high priority messages, an in box window, brief information regarding at least one of the most recently received messages, and alert status.

30 Claim 30 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein when a web browser is an active application, the status information includes at least one of the most recently used searches, at least one of the most recently obtained search results, identification of previous and next web pages which may be visited, list of favorite web pages, and current page loading information.

Claims 31-32 (canceled)

Claim 33 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information provides printer status information.

Claim 34 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information identifies contents of a clipboard.

35 Claim 35 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information identifies at least one of time, date, location, file type and size of most recently saved file.

Claim 36 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the auxiliary control is a key representing a mathematical operator, and in a spreadsheet application, the status information identifies the result if the mathematical operator is applied to data in a spreadsheet.

Claim 37 (currently amended): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period in which the auxiliary control maintains a current state; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the auxiliary control is configured to control scrolling of the display screen, the status information identifying settings for the ~~wheel~~auxiliary control device.

Claims 38-39 (canceled)

Claim 40 (currently amended): In a computer system having an input device and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

31 detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the input device for a first predefined period in which the input device maintains a current control state and information is displayed on the display screen; and

causing the information displayed on the display screen to disappear responsive to said step of detecting.

Claim 41 (original): The method according to claim 40, wherein the information includes a display widget.

Claim 42 (original): The method according to claim 41, wherein the display widget includes a scroll bar or a tool bar.

Claim 43 (original): The method according to claim 40, further comprising the steps of:

detecting absence of the physical presence proximate to or contacting the input device for a second predefined period after causing the information to disappear from the display screen; and



causing the information to reappear on the display screen, responsive to detecting the absence of the physical presence for the second predefined period.

Claim 44 (original): The method according to claim 40, wherein the input device is a pointing device wheel.

Claim 45 (original): The method according to claim 40, wherein the input device is configured to control scrolling.

Claim 46 (original): The method according claim 45, wherein the input device is a wheel or touchpad.

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Claim 47 (original): The method according to claim 40, wherein the input device is one of a button or a key.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the first display widget and the second display widget are different.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the first display widget is associated with a first application and the second display widget is associated with a second application different from the first application.

Claim 50 (new): The method according to claim 37, wherein the auxiliary control device is a wheel.

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